

is evidently prompted by conscientious observation and experience. While the number of methods and procedures described is a small and evidently personal one, they are probably those that the author has found best and most reliable. If a correction might be suggested, it would be that in the future the author refrain from the appearance of advertising a single brand of commercially prepared suture material, even if unintentionally. G. H. T.

The Occupational Diseases. Their Causation, Symptoms, Treatment and Prevention. By W. Gilman Thompson, M. D., Professor of Medicine Cornell University Medical College in New York City; Visiting Physician to Bellevue Hospital. Illustrated. New York and London: D. Appleton and Company, 1914.

This is the first book written in America devoted entirely to the subject of occupational diseases. Heretofore the subject has been treated briefly in works on hygiene and in monographs on particular forms of poisoning. The author takes up exhaustively every dangerous trade, gives us an idea of the methods used and of the various poisonous articles employed in the field of industrial arts. The etiology and symptoms of the numerous occupational diseases are considered in detail and a complete system of prophylaxis is laid down in each case. This country is far behind Europe in the prevention of trade diseases and it is only recently that the Federal, the State, and the labor authorities have seriously taken up the study of occupational disease. Every medical man should read this excellent work and familiarize himself with this important subject, for it is only by a widespread knowledge of the preventable waste of life through occupational hazard that we can hope to bring about the needed reforms.

W. F. McN., Jr.

Practical Therapeutics. Including Materia Medica and Prescription Writing, with a Description of the Most Important New and Nonofficial Remedies Passed Upon by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association. By Daniel M. Hoyt, M. D. Second Edition Revised and Rewritten. Published by C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis. 1914.

This is a large book in which the size of the type and the breadth of the interspacing as compared with the subject-matter is based on law of inverse squares. For example, "Potassium Chlorate" is disposed of by the statement: "A useful antiseptic in the mouth or in the rectum; soluble in sixteen parts of water." Calcium salts receives two lines of description. Hexamethylenamine receives five lines. In this way the official preparations are disposed of in 200 anemic pages.

On the other hand, 130 closely printed pages tell all about the nonofficial preparations and their properties in much detail and with names and addresses of their makers.

An amusing commentary is supplied by the author who in a virtuous discourse on proprietary medicines points out that veronal (proprietary) and ethyl carbonate are practically alike in action—but in the body of the work veronal (plus names and addresses) receives nearly a page of letter press and ethyl carbonate, alas! nothing. Enough said.

H. D'A. P.

Lehrbuch der forensischen Psychiatrie. By Prof. Dr. A. H. Hubner. Published by A. Marcus & E. Webers. Bonn, 1914.

This volume discusses from different angles the

forensic aspect of psychiatric diseases. The size of the print and the clarity of exposition make the book very easy reading. A general psychological discussion, with symptomatology, occupies the first portion of the book. In this portion psychiatric diseases with their mental and somatic symptoms are discussed briefly. The next part is given over to the penal laws, both military and civil, from the German and international standpoints. Throughout the whole work, and especially in the last part, many examples of the important mental diseases are given in their practical bearing with the law. To the specialist this book is invaluable.

J. M. W.

General Surgery. Volume II of Practical Medicine Series for 1914. Edited by John B. Murphy. The Year Book Publishers, Chicago, 1914. Price \$2.

The newer things discussed at length in this very good volume are serum therapy of surgical infections, local and regional anesthesia, and bone surgery of the reconstructive as well as conservative type. The big problems of cancer and pre-cancerous conditions receive a great deal of attention as does the field of gastro-intestinal surgery. Arthroplasty would naturally be considered in *extenso* by Murphy, who has done so much in this field. There is much of interest in the field of operative technic, especially as regards suture material and skin disinfection. It is true of this volume as of the others in this series, that if the bibliography be followed up, the reader will be placed in touch with nearly all of the best and latest in the scientific literature of the subject.

G. H. T.

Modern Surgery: General and Operative. By J. Chalmers DaCosta, M. D., Samuel D. Gross Professor of Surgery, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa. Seventh edition, revised, enlarged and reset. Octavo of 1515 pages, with 1085 illustrations, some of them in colors. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1914. Cloth, \$6 net; half morocco, \$7.50 net.

In this seventh edition, revision of the textbook has been accomplished without materially increasing the size of the volume. One new chapter has been added in which the carotid gland and thymus have been briefly discussed. There are nearly a hundred new illustrations, the majority of which are skiagraphs. The illustrations are more remarkable for their quantity than their quality. Some are worthless—e. g., skiagraph intra-capsular fracture of the hip. Others are poorly chosen. The chapters which deal with operative treatment of fractures, laryngology and X-ray have been especially improved. The subject of surgery is exceedingly well covered for a single volume text. Many of the statements are dogmatic. Some subjects which would be treated in a larger volume by the presentation of opposing views have been dismissed by the statement of one view which meets with the author's approval. The style of the book is pleasing. The student and practitioner will find here entertaining and helpful reading.

J. P. P.

A Treatise on Clinical Medicine. By William Hanna Thomson, M. D., LL. D., formerly Professor of Practice of Medicine and of Diseases of the Nervous System in the New York University Medical College; ex-President of the New York Academy of Medicine, etc. Octavo-volume of 667 pages. Philadelphia and Lon-